

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE****DIGITAL CAMERA FOR AUTHENTICATING A DIGITAL VISUAL IMAGE**

5           A digital camera and method are disclosed for verifying  
that a particular digitized visual image was produced by the  
digital camera. A visual image is stored in a digital format  
in the camera. A digital signature is generated for the image  
utilizing the camera only in response to the storage of the  
10   image in the particular camera which captured the image. The  
digital signature associates the stored image with the camera.  
The digital signature is stored only in the camera separately  
from the image in the camera. The digital signature is  
capable of being utilized only within the camera which  
15   generated the signature. It is not accessible outside of the  
particular camera which generated the signature. The  
signature is inaccessible to devices other than the camera.  
Subsequently, a digital visual image may be authenticated as  
being produced by this digital camera utilizing the digital  
20   signature stored in the digital camera. Only this digital  
camera is capable of authenticating images which were produced  
by this camera. Images produced by other digital cameras will  
not be authenticated by this camera. A digital camera will  
authenticate only unaltered images which were originally  
25   captured by this particular digital camera.